Serial No. 09/427,031

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 15-20, 22-24, 28, 30, 44-49, 51-53, 58, 59, 73-78, 80-82, 86 and 88 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject therein. Claims 4, 35 and 64 have been amended.

In the Office Action, the Examiner raises prior art rejections for claims 1, 15-20, 22-24, 28, 30, 44-49, 51-53, 58, 59, 73-78, 80-82, 86 and 88. These claims have been cancelled, thereby rendering the prior rejections moot.

The Examiner indicates that claims 4, 5, 35, 36, 64 and 65 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. These claims have been so rewritten, and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims, claims 2, 3, 6-14, 21, 25-27, 29, 31-34, 37-43, 50, 54-56, 58, 60-63, 66-72, 79, 83-85 and 87 have been allowed. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 1\00.1

Bv:

Mark J. Henry

Registration No. 36.162

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: (202) 434-1500 Facsimile: (202) 434-1501